

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
John C. Harvey *et al.*

Application No.: 08/469,612

Filed: June 6, 1995

For: SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
METHODS

Confirmation No.: 6510

Art Unit: 2424

Examiner: Huynh, Son P

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pursuant to item 7 on page 7 of the March 15th, 2010 Notice of Allowance in the above captioned application, Applicants hereby submit the following comments.

There are several informalities in the claims as agreed upon by the Applicants and the Examiner as presented in the Examiner's amendment. In claim 3, line 11, "and" should be deleted and in line 22, "and" should be inserted after "networks." In claim 6, line 3, a colon should be inserted after "comprises." In claim 21, line 28, "and" should be inserted after "networks." Although these informalities do not affect the claim scope, applicants believe that these amendment would place the claims in better form.

Examiner interview summaries that are relevant to the allowance of this application are set forth below.

Summary of Interviews

MAY 4, 2009

The prosecution of this application, along with all but two of Applicants' copending application, was suspended for several years pending the outcome of the appeal of Application Serial Nos. 08/470,571 and 08/487,526 and the reexamination proceedings of seven related patents. Applicants inquired into the status of these applications in January, 2009, as the current six-month suspension period expired. Applicants requested that the suspension of these applications not be renewed. The Office, through Supervisory Examiner David L. Ometz indicated that the suspensions would not be renewed and that prosecution would recommence. Applicants wish to thank Examiner David L. Ometz for the courtesy of the interview held on May 4, 2009 in which Applicants' representatives and the Examiners discussed an overall plan for examination of the remaining 110 applications which relate to this application and have a common chain of priority. Applicants were informed that the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) was developing a plan to resume examination and that Applicants would be informed when the plan was in place.

JULY 22, 2009

Applicants were informed in July, 2009, that a team of examiners had been assembled to examine Applicants' copending applications. Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' Representatives in a meeting held July 22, 2009, with the examination team. In attendance at the meeting were Thomas J. Scott, Jr. and Carl L. Benson, of Goodwin Procter and the PTO personnel identified on the attached list. Applicants' representatives made a presentation to the Examiners in attendance in accordance with the attached agenda and provided the materials attached hereto to the Examiners for their consideration and use in the further examination of this application and the other application related to this application as identified in Tab 2 of the materials provided to the Examiners in the meeting. Applicants' representatives agreed to respond to any telephone inquiries or to be present for personal interview at the PTO in any circumstance where the Examiner believed such an interview would advance the prosecution of this application.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

Applicants and Examiner discussed and agreed to amend claims 3, 5, 6, and 21. Applicants and Examiner also discussed a 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph issue. Examiner reminded Applicants that a Final Office Action had been mailed on September 29, 1998. Applicants submitted revised claims. Applicants noted that the parent 1981 specification may not support the new matter introduced by the proposed claim amendments.

MARCH 2, 2010

Applicants and Examiner discussed Examiner's proposed claim amendments of February 11, 2010 and agreed to amend claims 3 and 21. Claim 3 was amended to remove "a" from line 6 and to replace "said second channel" with "a predetermined channel" at line 15. Claim 21 was amended to remove "to receive" from line 4 and to replace "to scan" with "to control scanning of" at line 6. Examiner agreed to incorporate the changes into an Examiner's Amendment and to issue a Notice of Allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's time and consideration in this matter.

Dated: April 6, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By Thomas J. Scott, Jr.
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